

MODELING DAYLIGHT AVAILABILITY AND IRRADIANCE COMPONENTS FROM DIRECT AND GLOBAL IRRADIANCE

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Abstract—This paper presents the latest versions of several models developed by the authors to predict short time-step solar energy and daylight availability quantities needed by energy system modelers or building designers. The modeled quantities are global, direct and diffuse daylight illuminance, diffuse irradiance and illuminance impinging on tilted surfaces of arbitrary orientation, sky zenith luminance and sky luminance angular distribution. All models are original except for the last one which is extrapolated from current standards. All models share a common operating structure and a common set of input data: Hourly (or higher frequency) direct (or diffuse) and global irradiance plus surface dew point temperature. Key experimental observations leading to model development are briefly reviewed. Comprehensive validation results are presented. Model accuracy, assessed in terms of root-mean-square and mean bias errors, is analyzed both as a function of insolation conditions and site climatic environment.

1. INTRODUCTION

Specific solar, HVAC, or daylighting applications require specific solar radiation components for simulation or monitoring purposes. For instance, the simulation of daylight distribution in complex interior spaces, which is now possible thanks to new software development (e.g., [1]), requires an accurate knowledge of the distribution of light in the sky. Because these specific components are many and are often too expensive to measure on a routine basis, one has to rely on conversion models that use more routinely accessible data.

We present in this paper a series of extensively validated models that can generate a comprehensive set of such components and contribute to bridging the gap between available solar radiation data and specific user needs. Model applications are manifold. Two examples are (i) the preparation of local climatological data bases for direct use by interested engineering parties—this is currently being done for several locations in the State of New York [2]—and (ii) the modification of the radiation processing algorithms of specific system simulation programs (e.g., [3]). The models are the result of a three year development/validation study performed on experimental data recorded at 10 American and three European sites. Climates and environments range from high altitude desert to temperate maritime, including humid continental, subtropical and highly polluted environments.

Although the models' end-use fields may be very different, their common input and structure calls for this single unifying paper. This may contribute to presenting solar resource assessment as a global question rather than a combination of research fields which have all too often evolved on parallel tracks in the past.

2. METHODS

2.1 Model overview

The models presented in this paper are of three types;

1. Luminous efficacy models that relate, in terms of number of lumens per watt, the three basic radiation components—direct, global and diffuse irradiance—to their photopic equivalent—direct, global, and diffuse illuminance. Illuminance may be defined as the yield of a given light source—in the present case, the sun/sky—when its spectrum is weighted by the transfer function of the human eye [4]. The International Illumination Commission (CIE) standard human eye response curve and solar spectrum are compared in Fig. 1.
2. Models that predict diffuse irradiance or illuminance received by tilted surfaces.
3. Models that are concerned with the angular distribution of light in the sky dome rather than with the integrated diffuse values as in (2). A model that predicts the luminance at the sky's zenith is proposed and evaluated along with a model, extrapolated from CIE standards [5]–[7], that estimates luminance at any point in the sky dome.

All models are “all-weather” short-time-step conversion algorithms with a common operating structure. They are validated here with both hourly and 15-minute data.

The interrelationship between models, input data and main application fields may be seen in Fig. 2.

2.2 Modeling approach

2.2.1 Model input and insolation condition parameterization. The input to the models consist of short-time-step (hourly or less) direct and global ir-

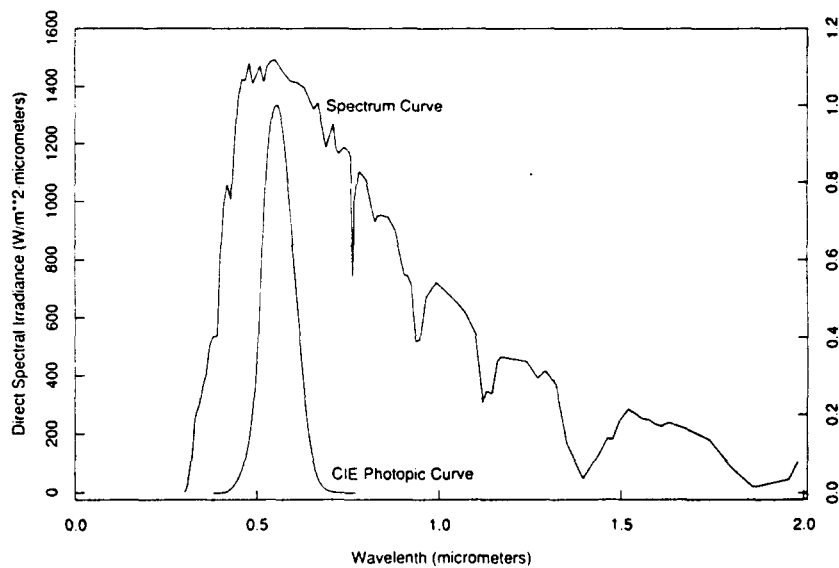


Fig. 1. The CIE Human Eye Photopic curve plotted with respect to the solar spectrum.

radiance data, as well as, for those where spectral effects are of concern, three-hourly surface dew point temperature. Global and direct irradiance constitute today the most widely available type of solar radiation data. Moreover, the recent development of the low cost/

maintenance rotating shadowband radiometer suggest that these will be more widely available in the future networks[8,9]. Modeled input may be used, in the absence of either the direct or both quantities, with a corresponding loss in accuracy[10]. The other input

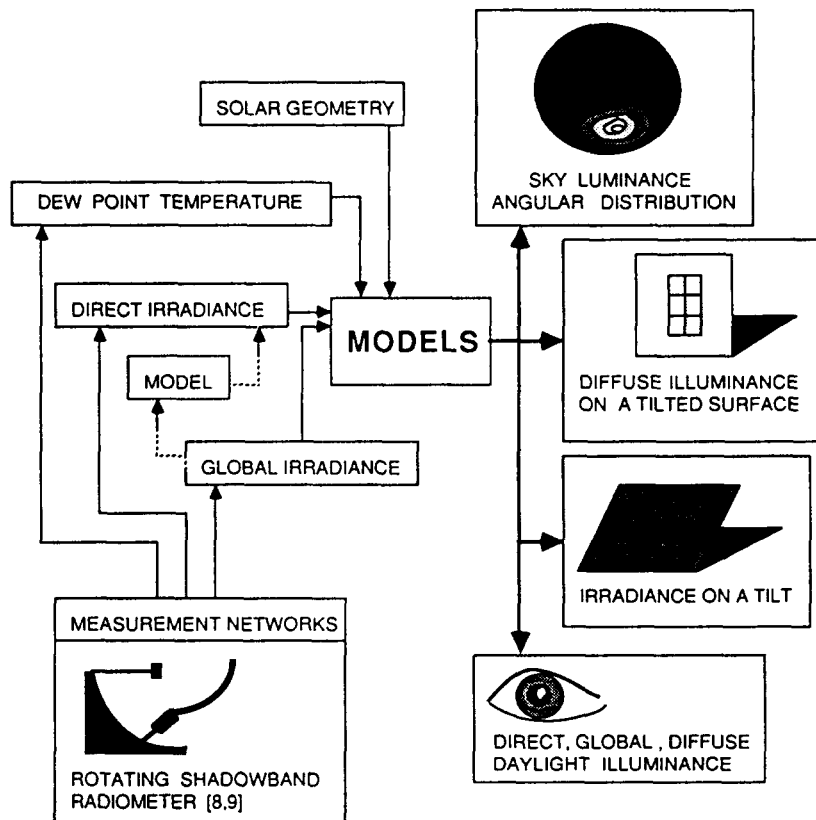


Fig. 2. Interrelationship between model inputs and outputs. The models' input data may be readily supplied by the Rotating Shadowband Radiometer, a new instrument well suited for precise network operation[9].

to some of the models presented here, 3-hourly surface dew point temperature is a widely available standard meteorological parameter.

The above inputs are processed to derive four basic components that parameterize all insolation conditions from overcast to clear. These components are

- (1) The solar zenith angle, noted as Z ;
- (2) The sky's clearness, noted as ϵ and given by

$$\epsilon = [(Dh + I)/Dh + \kappa Z^3]/[1 + \kappa Z^3], \quad (1)$$

where Dh is the horizontal diffuse irradiance, I the normal incidence direct irradiance and κ a constant equal to 1.041 for Z in radians; the Z^3 formulation was added to the original, simpler ϵ expression to eliminate dependence between this component and the solar zenith angle.

- (3) The sky's brightness, noted as Δ and given by

$$\Delta = Dh * m / I_o, \quad (2)$$

where m is the relative optical airmass [11] and I_o the extraterrestrial irradiance.

- (4) The atmospheric precipitable water content, denoted W (cm), and given by

$$W = \exp(0.07 * Td - 0.075) \quad (3)$$

where Td ($^{\circ}\text{C}$) is the three-hourly surface dew point temperature.

The formulation in eqn (3) is similar to that proposed by Reitan [12] which is applicable to monthly averages and validated for 15 locations in the United States. Its validity for short-time-step data was experimentally validated in the context of this project by Wright *et al.* [13].

It will be noted that the Δ - ϵ parameterization used here carries a quantity of information equivalent to the K - kt or kd - kt representations often reported in the literature [14, 15]. However, it is thought that the present approach better separates two distinct characteristics of the atmosphere: (i) ϵ variations express the transition from a totally overcast sky to a low turbidity clear sky; (ii) Δ variations reflect the opacity/thickness of the clouds.

2.2.2 Models structure. All the models presented here have a common structure represented by the following equation:

$$Y = X * F(\text{insolation condition, receptor/sun geometry}) \quad (4)$$

where Y is the modeled quantity (e.g., zenith luminance), X is a quantity depending only on the three basic inputs specified above, (e.g., diffuse irradiance), and F is a transfer function depending on the insolation condition components and solar geometry. The function F combines an analytical formulation for the variables Δ , Z and W and a discrete (bin) formulation for the variable ϵ . This semianalytical formulation al-

lows for maximum computer calculation efficiency—discrete data table access is much less time consuming than computations—while allowing manageable hand calculations if necessary (see discussion in [16]). In most instances, the dependence of F on insolation conditions will be expressed as

$$F(\epsilon, \Delta, Z, W) = a_i(\epsilon) + b_i(\epsilon)f(W) + c_i(\epsilon)g(Z) + d_i(\epsilon)h(\Delta) \quad (5)$$

where f , g , and h are analytical functions and a_i , b_i , c_i and d_i are discrete functions represented by eight-term vectors corresponding to eight ϵ bins. These bins have been optimized to account for the observed variability of sky radiance distribution at several sites [17] are specified in Table 1.

2.2.3 Model derivation. All models presented and tested here, with the exception of the luminance angular distribution model, were experimentally derived. The terms of the function F specified above were obtained in each case through least-square fitting of large data sets representative of a variety of climatic environments. Note that the structure of the function F is not entirely statistical but reflects in many cases the physical properties of radiation transfer.

2.3 Experimental data

Experimental data from a total of 13 sites are used in this study for model derivation and/or model validation purposes [42–46]. These are listed in Table 2 along with their dominant climatic/environment characteristics, the length of the available data set and the frequency of experimental measurements.

A typical instrumentation set-up used for 10 out of 13 sites [17, 20] is shown in Fig. 3. Table 3 identifies measurements available at each site and indicates if data from the site were used in this study for model derivation purposes or strictly for independent validation purposes. Note that both 15-minute and hourly data were used indiscriminately in this paper for model derivation and validation purposes, hence the “short-time-step” term used to qualify the models.

Data are known in each case to be of high quality and to have undergone strict calibration monitoring and stringent quality control. Class I pyranometer/pyrheliometers were used in all cases except for the vertical irradiance measurements in the New York locations. The cosine responses of each pyranometer and photometer used for the derivation of luminous efficacy

Table 1. Discrete sky clearness categories

| ϵ category | lower bound | upper bound |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1. Overcast | 1 | 1.065 |
| 2. | 1.065 | 1.230 |
| 3. | 1.230 | 1.500 |
| 4. | 1.500 | 1.950 |
| 5. | 1.950 | 2.800 |
| 6. | 2.800 | 4.500 |
| 7. | 4.500 | 6.200 |
| 8. Clear | 6.200 | -- |

Table 2. Origin, size and climatic environment of experimental data sets

| Site | Climate/Environment Main Features | Data Set Span and Frequency |
|-------------------------------|--|--|
| Geneva, Switzerland [42] | Temperate maritime, with central Europe continental influence. Persistent nebulosity enhanced by "blocking position at foot- hill of the Alps. | 1 yr. hourly data |
| Trappes, France [43] | Temperate maritime with high incidence of intermediate skies | 3 yr. hourly data |
| Carpentras, France [43] | Mediterranean | 3 yr. hourly data |
| Albany, NY, USA [44,45] | Humid continental with bimodal | 3yr. hourly data 2 yr. 15 min. data |
| New York, NY, USA [45] | Humid continental with maritime influence plus large City's anthropogenic environment | 1 yr. 15 min. data |
| Farmingdale, NY, USA [45] | Same as above but without city's environment | 1 yr. 15 min. data |
| Oswego, NY, USA [45] | Humid continental, Great Lakes basin | 6 mo. 15 min. data |
| Glens Falls, NY, USA [45] | Humid continental | 6 mo. 15 min. data |
| Phoenix, AZ, USA [46] | Arid, low elevation | 6 mo. hourly data |
| Albuquerque, NM, USA [46] | Arid, High elevation (1800 m) | 1 yr. hourly data |
| Los Angeles, CA, USA [46] | Arid and maritime influence plus high frequency of anthropogenic smog events | 6 mo. hourly data |
| Osage, KS, USA [46] | Continental, U.S. Great Plains | 6 mo. hourly data |
| C. Canaveral, FL, USA [46] | Subtropical, low latitude, maritime | 6 mo. hourly data |

models were experimentally determined. Data were corrected to account for this source of error, which may become critical at low elevations, particularly if the illuminance and irradiance sensors have opposite responses, as was often the case. This process is reported and thoroughly discussed in [18,19].

3. RESULTS

Result presentation is structured as follows: for each model, a brief review of experimental observations is first presented, followed by the formulation of the model and validation results.

3.1 Luminous efficacy models

Much observational work and modeling has occurred over the last 50 years to estimate luminous efficacy for specific insolation conditions and locations (e.g., see the comprehensive review by [21] and recent work by [22,23]). However, until very recently, no model development effort was undertaken to systematically predict the three photopic component from their irradiance equivalent for all insolation conditions. The following luminous efficacy models were derived from over 25,000 data points in five northeast U.S.

locations[20]. They are validated against data from each of these sites plus, independently, against data from one European site using similar instrumentation[24].

3.1.1 Global irradiance to illuminance conversion.

Key Observations. Experimental values of global luminous efficacy, G_{eff} , as a function of several sky condition parameters have been plotted in Fig. 4. These include (i) variations of G_{eff} with sky clearness ϵ for $Z \sim \text{constant}$; (ii) variations with sky brightness Δ for overcast conditions and $\sim \text{constant } Z$; (iii) variations with zenith angle for very clear ($\epsilon > 6$) and, (iv) "average" ($0.1 < \Delta < 0.3$) overcast conditions ($\epsilon < 1.2$). A polynomial fit to data, illustrating the combined variations of G_{eff} with Δ and ϵ , may be found in Fig. 5. The two previous figures include all data available from Geneva, and the five New York State sites.

Features previously noted by the authors[25] are quite apparent through these plots. Of particular interest is the exponential variation of G_{eff} with brightness, observed for overcast conditions. This has also been noted since by Littlefair[26]. This is attributable to the increase of water vapor absorption, hence the increase in luminous efficacy, with cloud thickness. One

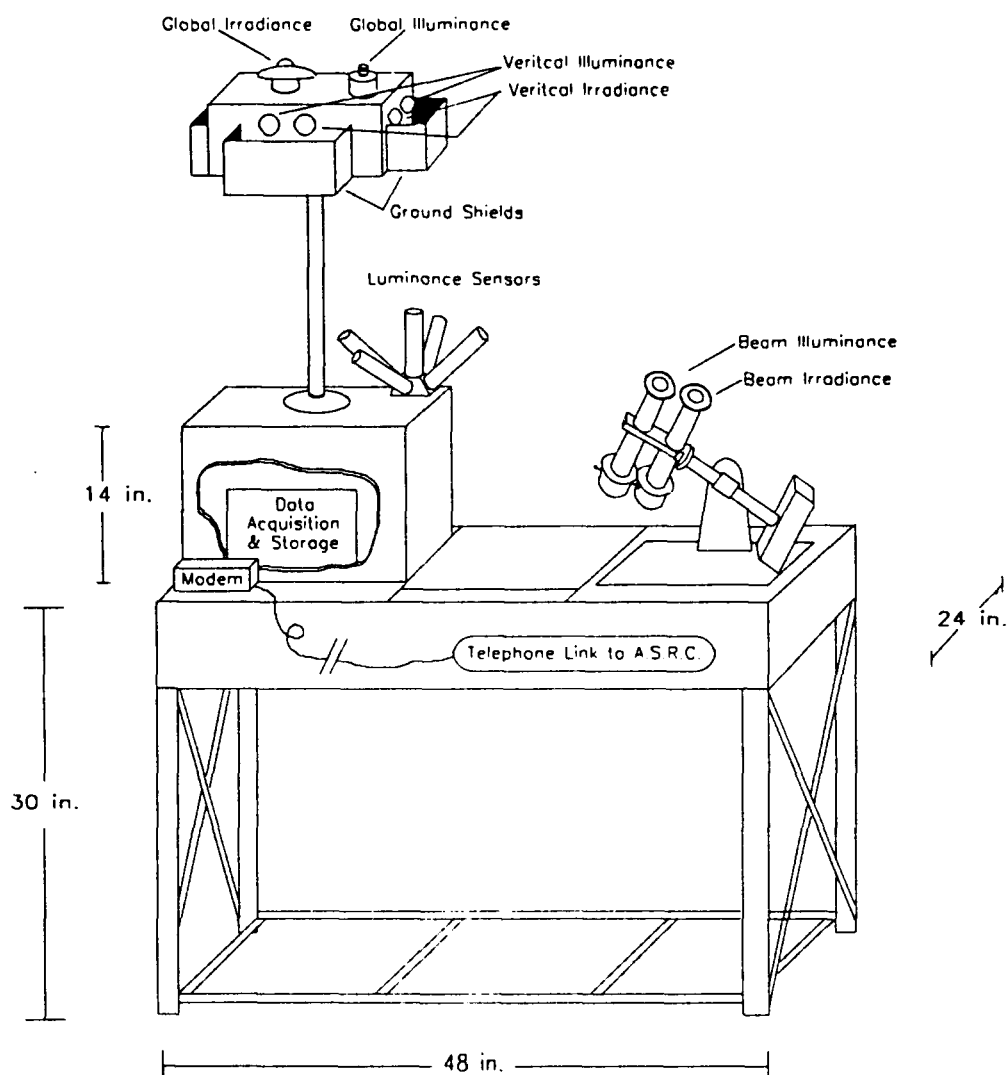


Fig. 3. Typical data acquisition set-up.

will also note from Fig. 4 that the clear sky zenith angle effect is minimal but that a noticeable zenith angle trend is observed for overcast conditions. A more detailed presentation and discussion of these results may be found in [20].

Of importance is the fact that observations independently performed in five distinctive northeastern U.S. and one Swiss location are in good agreement, suggesting that model site dependency may not be a major obstacle. This statement is supported by Fig. 6 where G_{eff} variations with Δ for the 50° – 70° zenith angle range are compared for each of the six sites.

Model formulation. Equation (6) below is used to calculate global illuminance from irradiance and the sky condition parameters. This was derived from 25,000 data points from the five New York State sites:

$$g = G[a_i + b_i W + c_i \cos(Z) + d_i \ln(\Delta)] \quad (6)$$

The coefficients a_i , b_i , c_i , and d_i are given in Table 4 for each ϵ bin.

Model validation. Performance evaluation results are summarized in Table 5. This includes model RMSE and MBE for three ranges of insolation conditions (respectively, overcast, intermediate, and clear) and six locations. The Geneva test is independent, the five other tests are technically dependent, since the test data were used to derive the model. However note that, for this and the other models tested here, a set of environmentally distinct sites are considered over a wide seasonal range. The testing process considers each site/season/insolation conditions distinctly; a satisfactory behavior of the model for each element in this comprehensive range of environments may be considered as a valid testing ground, especially if one realizes that quality independent data sets of this type are particularly scarce today. Of course, subsequent independent testing is strongly recommended; the CIE's International Daylighting Measurement Year Program [41] should provide the data needed for these verifications.

Resultant RMSE for all six sites is 3% while MBE is kept near or below 1% for all conditions and sites.

Table 3. Measurements available at each site—Role of data in model derivation validation

| Site & Available Measurements | Model Type | | | | |
|--|----------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | Luminous Efficacy | Slope Diffuse Irradiance | Slope Diffuse Illuminance | Zenith Luminance | Skylight Angular Distribution |
| Trappes # | -- | D,V | -- | -- | -- |
| Carpentras # | -- | D,V | -- | -- | -- |
| Albany 1 & | -- | D,V | -- | -- | -- |
| Farmingdale * | D,V | V | D,V | D,V | V |
| Albany 2 * | D,V | V | D,V | D,V | V |
| Queens * | D,V | V | D,V | D,V | V |
| Oswego * | D,V | V | D,V | D,V | V |
| Glens Falls * | D,V | V | D,V | D,V | V |
| Geneva ^ | V | D,V | -- | -- | -- |
| Phoenix # | -- | D,V | -- | -- | -- |
| Los Angeles # | -- | D,V | -- | -- | -- |
| Albuquerque # | -- | D,V | -- | -- | -- |
| Cape Canaveral # | -- | D,V | -- | -- | -- |
| Osage # | -- | D,V | -- | -- | -- |

D: Site data were used for model derivation
V: Site data were used for model validation

Available Measurements:
 * I, i, G, g, D, d, Gc 90° N-E-S-W, gc 90° N-E-S-W, Lvz, Lvc 45° N-E-S-W
 # I, G, Gc 45° S, Gc 90° N-E-S-W
 & I, G, Gc 33-43-53° S, Gc 90° N-E-S-W
 ^ I, i, G, g, D, d, Gc 30-45-60° S, Gc 90° N-E-S-W
 Note: Ground-reflected component was removed from all Gc and gc points

This is remarkable since these values are of the order of instrumentation precision levels. The independent test in Geneva is consistent with the others, although minor degradation is noted, which may be downplayed for two reasons: (i) A dependent test in Geneva does not yield substantial improvement for that site; and (ii) photopic instrument characterization, a crucial components of luminous efficacy measurements [27],

was not emphasized in Geneva to the extent that they were in the New York sites.

In summary, the model reduces overall RMSE by a factor of 1.4 over a constant luminous efficacy model set at the mean of all points. For such specific conditions as dark overcast skies, error reduction approaches a factor 3. Summer and winter bias are found to be less than 0.5%; this indicates that the model accounts

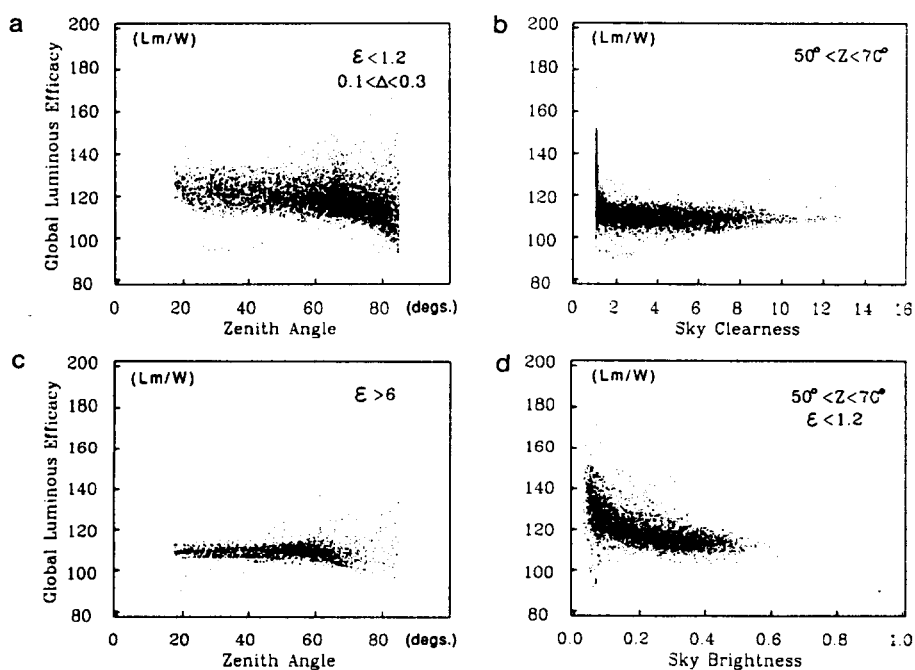


Fig. 4. Variations of global luminous efficacy with (a) Solar zenith angle for overcast conditions. (b) Sky Clearness, ϵ , for a limited zenith angle range. (c) Solar zenith angle for very clear conditions. (d) Sky Brightness, Δ , for overcast conditions. (Data from five New York sites and Geneva).

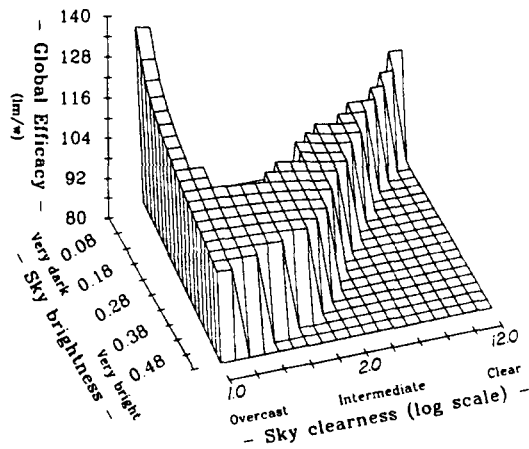


Fig. 5. Best-fit polynomial surface showing combined variations of global luminous efficacy with ϵ and Δ at Z and Td = constant. (Note that the surface is plotted only for the ϵ - Δ plane region where the quasi-totality of events were recorded—the remaining of the plane corresponds to either extremely unlikely (low Δ , middle ϵ) or to physically impossible situations (high Δ , high ϵ).

satisfactorily for seasonal differences that have been previously reported [28].

3.1.2 Diffuse irradiance to illuminance conversion.

Key Observations. Variations of diffuse luminous efficacy, D_{eff} , with ϵ have been plotted in Fig. 7 for each of the six sites. A similar trend is apparent at each site showing a marked increase from overcast to clear conditions caused by an increased contribution of molecular (Rayleigh) scattering. (Note that the values of ϵ (sky clearness) achieved in Geneva were far below those achieved at the New York sites; this is a result of climatic differences reported in Table 2). A polynomial surface has been fitted to the ensemble of data (Fig. 8) to illustrate the combined variations of D_{eff} with clearness and brightness at $Z \sim \text{cst}$. This varies from less than 110 lumen/watt for bright overcast conditions to above 150 for clear skies. Clear sky luminous efficacy further increases with solar zenith angle, likely because of increased contribution, on the horizontal, of multiple Rayleigh scattering at the expense of circumsolar Mie scattering; this may be seen in Fig. 9. As before, a more detailed analysis of results will be found in [20].

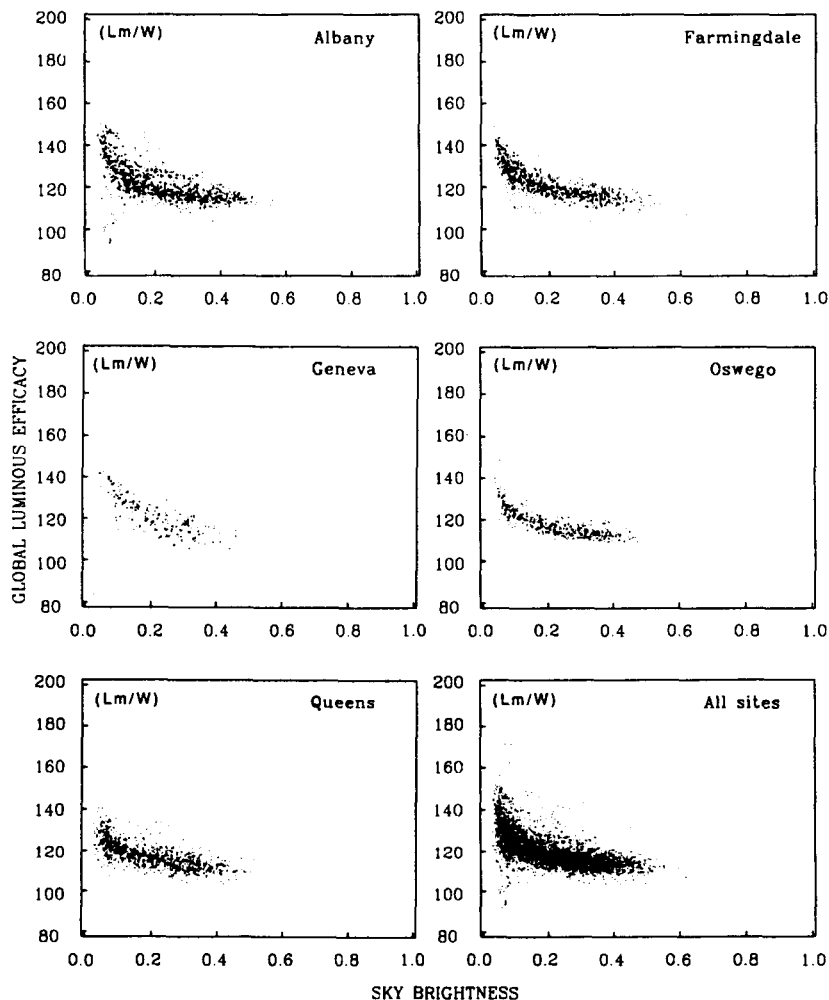


Fig. 6. Variations of global luminous efficacy with sky brightness, Δ , for five locations.

Table 4. Luminous efficacy and zenith luminance model coefficients

| ϵ bin | Global luminous Efficacy (Eq.6) | | | | Direct Luminous Efficacy (Eq.8) | | | |
|----------------|---------------------------------|-------|-------|--------|---------------------------------|-------|-------|--------|
| | a_i | b_i | c_i | d_i | a_i | b_i | c_i | d_i |
| 1 | 96.63 | -0.47 | 11.50 | -9.16 | 57.20 | -4.55 | -2.98 | 117.12 |
| 2 | 107.54 | 0.79 | 1.79 | -1.19 | 98.99 | -3.46 | -1.21 | 12.38 |
| 3 | 98.73 | 0.70 | 4.40 | -6.95 | 109.83 | -4.90 | -1.71 | -8.81 |
| 4 | 92.72 | 0.56 | 8.36 | -8.31 | 110.34 | -5.84 | -1.99 | -4.56 |
| 5 | 86.73 | 0.98 | 7.10 | -10.94 | 106.36 | -3.97 | -1.75 | -6.16 |
| 6 | 88.34 | 1.39 | 6.06 | -7.60 | 107.19 | -1.25 | -1.51 | -26.73 |
| 7 | 78.63 | 1.47 | 4.93 | -11.37 | 105.75 | 0.77 | -1.26 | -34.44 |
| 8 | 99.65 | 1.86 | -4.46 | -3.15 | 101.18 | 1.58 | -1.10 | -8.29 |

| ϵ bin | Diffuse Luminous Efficacy (Eq.7) | | | | Zenith Luminance Prediction (Eq.10) | | | |
|----------------|----------------------------------|-------|--------|--------|-------------------------------------|--------|--------|---------|
| | a_i | b_i | c_i | d_i | a_i | c_i | c_i' | d_i |
| 1 | 97.24 | -0.46 | 12.00 | -8.91 | 40.86 | 26.77 | -29.59 | -45.75 |
| 2 | 107.22 | 1.15 | 0.59 | -3.95 | 26.58 | 14.73 | 58.46 | -21.25 |
| 3 | 104.97 | 2.96 | -5.53 | -8.77 | 19.34 | 2.28 | 100.00 | 0.25 |
| 4 | 102.39 | 5.59 | -13.95 | -13.90 | 13.25 | -1.39 | 124.79 | 15.66 |
| 5 | 100.71 | 5.94 | -22.75 | -23.74 | 14.47 | -5.09 | 160.09 | 9.13 |
| 6 | 106.42 | 3.83 | -36.15 | -28.83 | 19.76 | -3.88 | 154.61 | -19.21 |
| 7 | 141.88 | 1.90 | -53.24 | -14.03 | 28.39 | -9.67 | 151.58 | -69.39 |
| 8 | 152.23 | 0.35 | -45.27 | -7.98 | 42.91 | -19.62 | 130.80 | -164.08 |

Model formulation. Diffuse illuminance may be derived from diffuse irradiance and the sky condition parameters through eqn (7). This is given below:

$$dh = Dh[a_i + b_i W + c_i \cos(Z) + d_i \ln(\Delta)] \quad (7)$$

The coefficients of eqn (7), which were derived by least-square fitting of over 20,000 points are given in Table

4. Coefficients for the two highest ϵ bins were derived from fixed shadowband diffuse irradiance and illuminance measurements available in Albany only: although diffuse measurements with standard shadowbands are inherently less accurate than those obtained by global and direct difference, this is not the case for clear day diffuse luminous efficacy measurement: in this case, the diffuse component is small compared to

Table 5. Luminous efficacy and zenith luminance model RMS and mean bias error as a function of insolation conditions and location

| SITE | INSOLATION CONDITIONS | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------|-------|---------------|-------|-------|-------|------------|-------|
| | Overcast | | Intermededite | | Clear | | All events | |
| | MBE | RMSE | MBE | RMSE | MBE | RMSE | MBE | RMSE |
| Global Illuminance Prediction Model | | | | | | | | |
| Albany | 0.3% | 5.0% | 0.5% | 3.3% | 0.3% | 2.4% | 0.4% | 3.4% |
| Farmingdale | 1.2% | 3.4% | 1.4% | 3.0% | 1.2% | 2.7% | 1.2% | 3.2% |
| Queens | -1.3% | 3.5% | -1.3% | 2.7% | -1.2% | 2.4% | -1.2% | 2.9% |
| Glens Falls | -0.3% | 4.9% | -0.6% | 4.0% | -0.6% | 3.3% | -0.6% | 4.1% |
| Oswego | -0.5% | 2.5% | 0.9% | 2.5% | 1.2% | 1.9% | 0.5% | 2.5% |
| Geneva | 0.1% | 5.7% | -1.5% | 3.7% | 1.6% | 3.2% | 0.7% | 4.3% |
| Diffuse Illuminance Prediction Model | | | | | | | | |
| Albany | 0.2% | 5.1% | 0.8% | 7.2% | 0.9% | 13.7% | 0.6% | 8.4% |
| Farmingdale | 1.1% | 3.5% | 1.5% | 6.1% | 1.9% | 11.1% | 1.4% | 6.7% |
| Queens | -1.1% | 3.5% | -1.1% | 6.0% | -1.3% | 12.1% | -1.1% | 7.4% |
| Glens Falls | -0.3% | 5.2% | -0.8% | 8.7% | -0.5% | 17.3% | -0.5% | 10.6% |
| Oswego | -0.6% | 2.7% | 0.8% | 5.0% | -1.4% | 11.4% | -0.8% | 5.9% |
| Geneva | 0.4% | 6.1% | 3.8% | 9.1% | 3.5% | 10.2% | 2.3% | 8.7% |
| * Value derived from fixed shadowband measurements | | | | | | | | |
| Direct Illuminance Prediction Model | | | | | | | | |
| Albany | ----- | ---- | 1.0% | 10.7% | 0.7% | 5.7% | 0.7% | 7.1% |
| Farmingdale | ----- | ---- | 1.2% | 10.7% | 1.0% | 4.3% | 1.0% | 5.8% |
| Queens | ----- | ---- | -1.4% | 10.0% | -0.9% | 4.2% | -1.0% | 5.6% |
| Glens Falls | ----- | ---- | -1.6% | 12.8% | -1.3% | 5.3% | -1.4% | 7.4% |
| Oswego | ----- | ---- | 1.9% | 9.8% | 1.3% | 4.0% | 1.5% | 5.9% |
| Geneva | ----- | ---- | -4.3% | 14.0% | 0.8% | 4.5% | -1.6% | 9.5% |
| Zenith Luminance Prediction Model | | | | | | | | |
| Albany | 3.2% | 19.0% | -1.1% | 24.0% | 1.0% | 24.1% | 0.4% | 21.5% |
| Farmingdale | 3.0% | 19.1% | -2.3% | 24.0% | 2.0% | 30.2% | 0.8% | 22.9% |
| Queens | -2.5% | 17.6% | 1.3% | 21.9% | 0.3% | 28.2% | -1.2% | 21.8% |
| Glens Falls | -3.1% | 25.1% | 4.9% | 29.4% | 3.6% | 26.3% | -0.9% | 30.6% |
| Oswego | -9.0% | 23.9% | 1.1% | 24.9% | 1.6% | 23.8% | 0.3% | 24.6% |

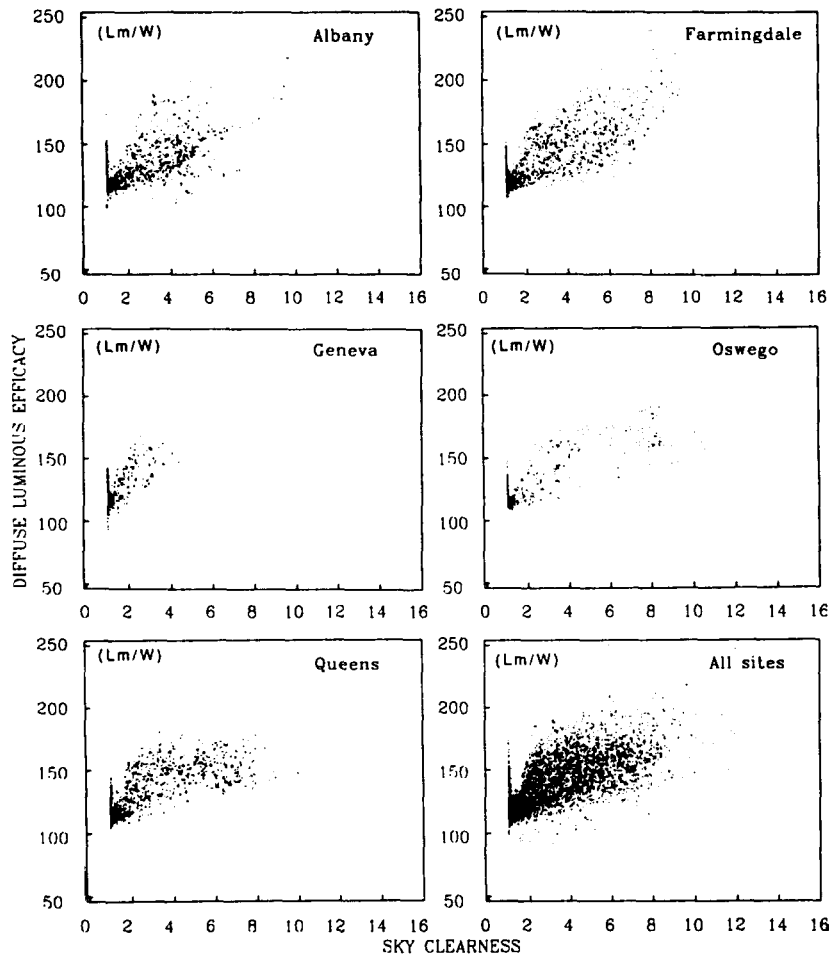


Fig. 7. Variations of diffuse luminous efficacy with sky clearness, ϵ , for five locations.

the direct and global components. If diffuse is obtained by difference of the latter, a small relative error in any one of those will result in a potentially large relative error in the diffuse value; moreover, since diffuse lu-

minous efficacy is the ratio of two such differences, the measurement error may reach unacceptable levels. On the other hand, when deriving luminous efficacy from shadowband measurements, the initial source of error has a tendency to "self-correct" since the shadowband blocks an identical portion of the sky for both irradiance and illuminance; aside from circumsolar spectral differences, the shadowband error is canceled out by ratioing the two quantities.

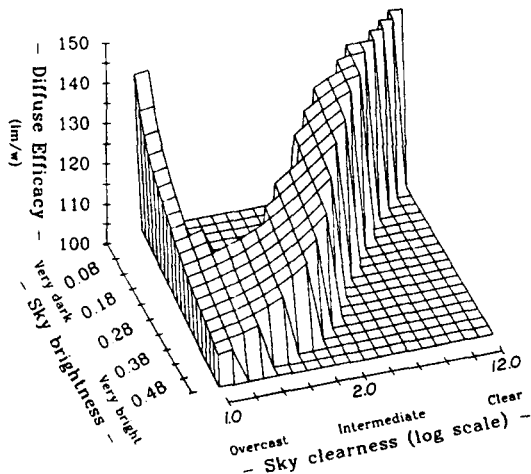


Fig. 8. Best-fit polynomial surface showing combined variations of diffuse luminous efficacy with ϵ and Δ at Z and T_d = constant. (see note in Fig. 5.).

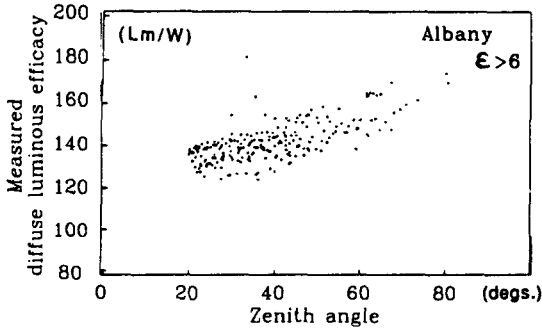


Fig. 9. Variations of diffuse luminous efficacy with solar zenith angle for very clear conditions. Data from Albany, NY (fixed shadowband measurements).

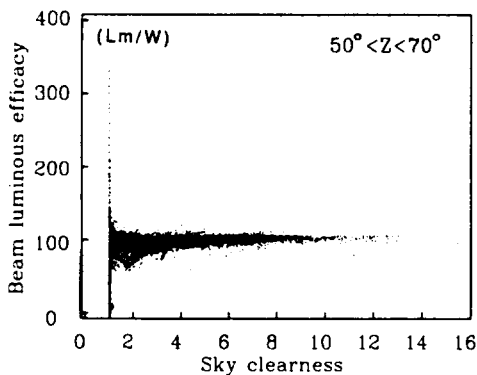


Fig. 10. Variations of direct beam luminous efficacy with sky clearness, ϵ , from overcast to clear conditions. Data from Geneva and 5 New York sites.

Model validation. Prediction errors sorted by site and insolation conditions are reported in Table 5. Results for Geneva are consistent with the other sites', except for a slightly higher bias, possibly traceable to small calibration differences between the European and American sets of instruments. Note that the relatively high RMSE (10–15%) for clear conditions is believed to be a result of measurement imprecision described in the previous paragraph. Tests performed in Albany on more reliable fixed shadowband data yield a RMSE of about 7% for these conditions.

Use of the luminous efficacy model improves overall prediction error by a factor of 1.8 with respect to a constant luminous efficacy model optimized to the data set. When based on more reliable fixed shadow band data, the improvement factor reaches 2.9. As before, no seasonal bias is detected. Existing winter–summer differences are well accounted for by the surface dew point input (coefficient b_i in eqn (7)).

3.1.3 Direct irradiance to illuminance conversion.

Key observations. Observed variations of direct luminous efficacy, I_{eff} , with sky clearness at $Z \sim \text{cst}$ are

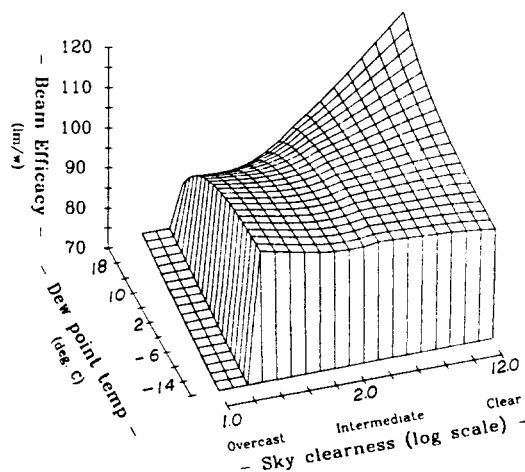


Fig. 11. Best fit Polynomial surface showing combined variations of direct luminous efficacy with sky clearness, ϵ , and surface dew point temperature, T_d . (Note that the surface was not plotted for low ϵ values where direct luminous efficacy becomes a meaningless quantity).

reported in Fig. 10. Except for an understandable increase in scatter toward overcast conditions, the observed dispersion for the six sites is remarkably low. Some of the dispersion for intermediate conditions may be accounted for by varying conditions of the other parameters, notably by the dew point temperature. The polynomial surface fitted to all data and plotted in Fig. 11 illustrates the markedly different effect of atmospheric moisture on I_{eff} for clear and intermediate conditions. I_{eff} decreases with increasing T_d for intermediate conditions, likely because of enhanced aerosol scattering, while it increases for clear conditions, because of increased absorption in the infrared. This effect, which was recently reported and discussed in [13] is not accounted for in physically based approaches such as [29]. The combined influence of sky clearness and zenith angle may be assessed in Fig. 12, where modeled I_{eff} values (eqn (8)) have been plotted: The effect of ϵ , while small for low zenith angles becomes crucial for zenith angles in excess of 70° .

Model formulation. Direct illuminance, i , is obtained from direct irradiance, I , and the sky condition parameters through eqn (8).

$$i = \max \{ 0, I[a_i + b_i W + c_i \exp(5.73 Z - 5) + d_i \Delta] \} \quad (8)$$

The coefficients of eqn (8), which were derived at least-square fitting of 14,000 points are given in Table 4. The exponential formulation for Z had been previously optimized [13].

Model validation. Prediction errors are reported in Table 5. Performance is consistent at all sites, with slightly more dispersion observed in Geneva for intermediate conditions: Possible causes are instrumentation differences, and a possibly different W - T_d relationship at the European location.

Overall, the present model results in an improvement by a factor of 3 over a constant luminous efficacy model optimized to the present data set and by a factor of 1.4 over a model that would account for solar elevation only. Seasonal bias variations are found not to exceed 0.3% [20].

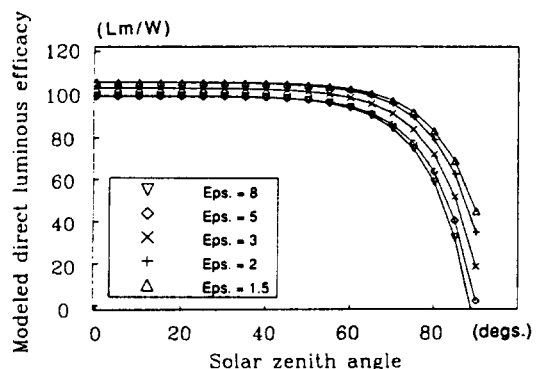


Fig. 12. Variations of modeled direct beam luminous efficacy with solar zenith angle for different values of sky clearness, ϵ . Data from five New York sites.

3.2 Diffuse irradiance and illuminance on tilted surfaces modeling

These models estimate the total (integrated) sky diffuse irradiance/illuminance received by a surface tilted from the horizontal (e.g., a window). The ground-reflected diffuse component may be added to obtain the total hemispheric diffuse radiation on a slope. This is not treated here but in a separate paper by the authors [30]. Output data are suitable for most energy gain calculations (e.g., solar [31], HVAC [3]) and for simple daylighting calculations (e.g., [32]). More complex daylighting applications that require an actual knowledge of the light source angular distribution should instead rely on the models presented in Section 3.3.

Both models are based on the anisotropic diffuse model developed by Perez *et al.* [33] and commonly referred to as the Perez model. This has been considerably simplified since the original version [16] while conserving its original representation of the sky dome as an isotropic background upon which are superimposed a circumsolar and horizon/zenith effects; these effects are, respectively, simulated by a point source at the sun's position and a linear source at the horizon; the latter can be either a positive or negative source signifying respectively horizon and zenith brightening.

Model formulation. The model governing equation for both illuminance and irradiance is

$$X_c = X_h[(1 - F_1)(1 + \cos S)/2 + F_1a/b + F_2\sin S] \quad (9)$$

where X_c and X_h are, respectively, the tilted and horizontal diffuse value of either illuminance or irradiance, S is the considered surface's slope, F_1 and F_2 are coefficients expressing the degree of circumsolar and horizon/zenith anisotropy respectively; they are functions of the sky condition. The terms a and b are given below:

$$a = \max(0, \cos \theta) \quad \text{and} \quad b = \max(0.087, \cos Z)$$

where θ is the incidence angle of the sun on the considered slope.

3.2.1 Irradiance model. The irradiance version of the model has been extensively validated. In its original version, it was reviewed and selected by the International Energy Agency [34]. Recent research and co-operation programs [35] allowed for optimizing and testing the model against data from 13 sites.

Model coefficients. The variations of horizon and circumsolar brightening coefficients F_1 and F_2 with insolation conditions have been observed to be consistent from site to site [17,20]. Some of the key features are presented in Fig. 13 where variations with ϵ for a given zenith angle range have been reported. These features include gradual increase of the circumsolar coefficient from a value of 0 for overcast conditions to about 0.6 for intermediate-to-clear conditions ($\epsilon \approx 2-3$) followed by a marked decrease toward very clear conditions. For the horizon coefficient, an increase from a negative

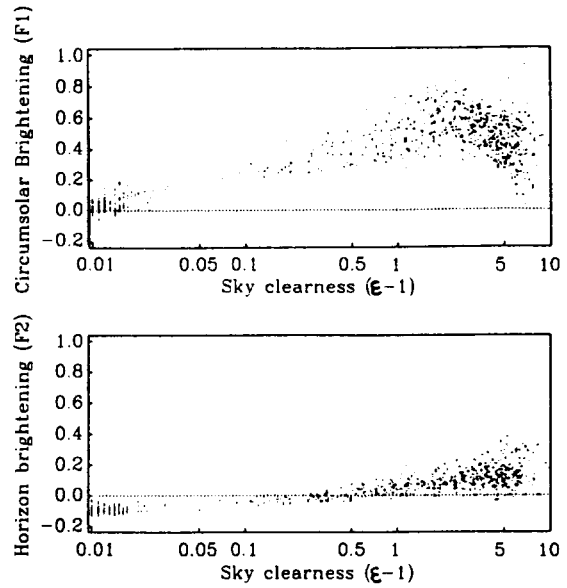


Fig. 13. Variations of circumsolar and horizon brightening coefficients with sky clearness, ϵ at $Z \sim \text{constant}$ (45° – 55°). Data from Albuquerque, Phoenix, Los Angeles, Cape Canaveral, and Osage.

value for overcast conditions to a positive value for clear conditions is noted. These observations are consistent with the physical processes affecting solar radiation atmospheric transfer: the circumsolar peak for intermediate conditions corresponds to a maximum in forward scattering by thin/scattered cloud and/or high aerosol content, the subsequent decrease toward clear conditions is indicative of a decrease in atmospheric aerosol content. The negative value for F_2 is traceable to a relative brightening of the zenithal region for overcast conditions the physical nature of which is well understood [36], the positive value for clear skies is to be expected from Rayleigh scattering in an homogeneous nonabsorbing atmosphere. However, perhaps more remarkable than basic agreement with understood physical processes, is the fact that the observed variation patterns are continuous and exhibit low dispersion over the complete range of insolation conditions and that indeed, the so-called intermediate skies exhibit very predictable site-independent anisotropic features, when parameterized as proposed, despite the possible combinations of cloud type/height and turbidity for these conditions.

The recommended set of coefficients is based on data from Albany, Geneva, Los Angeles, Albuquerque, Phoenix, Cape Canaveral, Osage, Trappes, and Carpentras. These are given in Table 6. This set differs slightly from that presented at an earlier stage in Perez *et al.* [17]. The continuous evolution of coefficients may be related to their sensitivity to the range of the data from which they are derived. However, the validation results reported in Table 7 demonstrate that the coefficients have now achieved an asymptotic level of optimization and that the choice between the current and previous sets is far from critical.

Table 6. Perez model coefficients for irradiance and illuminance

| ϵ Bin | F ₁₁ | F ₁₂ | F ₁₃ | F ₂₁ | F ₂₂ | F ₂₃ |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|---|-----------------|-----------------|
| IRRADIANCE COEFFICIENTS | | | | | | |
| 1 | -0.008 | 0.588 | -0.062 | -0.060 | 0.072 | -0.022 |
| 2 | 0.130 | 0.683 | -0.151 | -0.019 | 0.066 | -0.029 |
| 3 | 0.330 | 0.487 | -0.221 | 0.055 | -0.064 | -0.026 |
| 4 | 0.568 | 0.187 | -0.295 | 0.109 | -0.152 | -0.014 |
| 5 | 0.873 | -0.392 | -0.362 | 0.226 | -0.462 | 0.001 |
| 6 | 1.132 | -1.237 | -0.412 | 0.288 | -0.823 | 0.056 |
| 7 | 1.060 | -1.600 | -0.359 | 0.264 | -1.127 | 0.131 |
| 8 | 0.678 | -0.327 | -0.250 | 0.156 | -1.377 | 0.251 |
| ILLUMINANCE COEFFICIENTS | | | | | | |
| 1 | 0.011 | 0.570 | -0.081 | -0.095 | 0.158 | -0.018 |
| 2 | 0.429 | 0.363 | -0.307 | 0.050 | 0.008 | -0.065 |
| 3 | 0.809 | -0.054 | -0.442 | 0.181 | -0.169 | -0.092 |
| 4 | 1.014 | -0.252 | -0.531 | 0.275 | -0.350 | -0.096 |
| 5 | 1.282 | -0.420 | -0.689 | 0.380 | -0.559 | -0.114 |
| 6 | 1.426 | -0.653 | -0.779 | 0.425 | -0.785 | -0.097 |
| 7 | 1.485 | -1.214 | -0.784 | 0.411 | -0.629 | -0.082 |
| 8 | 1.170 | -0.300 | -0.615 | 0.518 | -1.892 | -0.055 |
| Circumsolar Brightening Coefficient | | | | $F_1 = F_{11} + F_{12}*\Delta + F_{13}*Z$ | | |
| Horizon Brightening Coefficient | | | | $F_2 = F_{21} + F_{22}*\Delta + F_{23}*Z$ | | |

Model validation. Model resultant RMS and mean bias error for all sites studied are reported in Table 8. These are sorted as a function of surface orientation and compared to that of two reference models: the isotropic and the Hay models [37]. Overall RMS error is kept at $\approx 15 \text{ W/m}^2$, as opposed to 39 and 25 W/m^2 for the two reference models.

Site dependency may be assessed by looking at Table 7 where overall RMS errors have been reported, sorted by site and origin of coefficient set. It can be seen (i) that performance is consistent at all sites, and that (ii) for all but one case, (Osage, KS), coefficients derived from any one site yield a better performance than the reference models—the Osage exception may be traced to the lack of experimental data for certain insolation conditions and the resulting distortion from the coefficients fitted to those data.

3.2.2 Illuminance model. The model formulation is identical to that of the irradiance model (eqn (9)), with the exception that horizontal diffuse illuminance is the first term on the right-hand side of eqn (9). This is obtained from diffuse irradiance using eqn (7).

Model coefficients. Concerning the coefficients, a

distinct illuminance set is recommended to account for the difference between daylight and radiant power anisotropy. The recommended illuminance set is provided in Table 6. This was derived from five northeast U.S. sites. The use of a distinct set is clearly justified by the validation results presented below. Some qualitative differences between irradiance and illuminance coefficients are shown in Fig. 14: Observed variations with ϵ at $Z \approx \text{cst}$ are compared for two time-coincident sets. Differences are small but two distinctions merit a comment: (i) the decrease of circumsolar brightening toward very clear skies is less pronounced for the illuminance component; and (ii) horizon darkening (i.e., zenith brightening) for overcast conditions is more pronounced for the irradiance component—a consequence of water vapor absorption (see [20]).

Model validation. Model performance is reported in Table 8, in terms of orientation-dependent RMSE and MBE. Four versions of the model are presented and compared to the two reference models. Versions 1, 2, and 3 use measured horizontal diffuse illuminance as input for eqn (9) but use three different sets of coefficients, respectively: (i) the recommended illuminance

Table 7. Tilted diffuse irradiance model composite RMSE as a function of location and origin of coefficients

| MODEL Coefficients | PEREZ | | | | | | | | | | HAY ISO | | | |
|-----------------------|--|--------|--------|------|------|--------|-----|----|----|----|---------|----|----|----|
| | Phoen. | Osage | C.Can. | Alby | Fra. | Geneva | - | - | - | - | | | | |
| | El Mte | Albuq. | SNLA | USA | | US+Fr. | ALL | | | | | | | |
| LOCATION | Five-Orientation Composite RMSE (W/m) | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Phoenix, AZ | 13 | 15 | 64 | 15 | 20 | 13 | 18 | 15 | 22 | 17 | 16 | 16 | 20 | 34 |
| El Monte, CA | 15 | 13 | 48 | 17 | 17 | 14 | 18 | 15 | 19 | 16 | 17 | 17 | 23 | 45 |
| Osage, KS | 17 | 16 | 13 | 20 | 18 | 15 | 20 | 18 | 20 | 18 | 17 | 17 | 28 | 46 |
| Albuquerque, NM | 13 | 14 | 50 | 12 | 15 | 13 | 16 | 13 | 17 | 14 | 15 | 14 | 20 | 33 |
| C.Canaveral, FL | 14 | 17 | 36 | 14 | 12 | 14 | 16 | 14 | 19 | 17 | 17 | 17 | 23 | 34 |
| ALL ABOVE SITES | 14 | 15 | 51 | 16 | 17 | 14 | 17 | 15 | 19 | 16 | 16 | 16 | 22 | 38 |
| Albany (SEMTS) | 17 | 16 | 42 | 16 | 17 | 16 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 13 | 14 | 13 | 24 | 36 |
| ALL ABOVE SITES | 16 | 16 | 45 | 16 | 17 | 15 | 14 | 14 | 16 | 14 | 15 | 14 | 23 | 36 |
| Trappes & Carp. | 20 | 20 | 21 | 20 | 19 | 19 | 16 | 17 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 16 | 28 | 43 |
| ALL ABOVE SITES | 17 | 17 | 43 | 17 | 17 | 17 | 15 | 15 | 16 | 15 | 16 | 15 | 25 | 38 |
| Geneva, Switz. | 19 | 17 | 23 | 18 | 18 | 18 | 17 | 16 | 17 | 16 | 15 | 15 | 24 | 39 |
| ALL SITES | 19 | 18 | 41 | 18 | 18 | 17 | 16 | 16 | 17 | 15 | 16 | 15 | 25 | 39 |

Table 8. Overall RMSE and mean bias error for tilted diffuse irradiance and illuminance models

| | | IRRADIANCE MODEL ERROR (W/m ²) | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|-----|-----------|-----|---------|-----|---------|-----|-----------|-----|------|-----|
| Surface Orientation | Mean Global Irradiance (W/m ²) | PEREZ 1 | | ISOTROPIC | | HAY | | | | | | | |
| | | RMSE | MBE | RMSE | MBE | RMSE | MBE | | | | | | |
| 90° North | 64 | 11 | 3 | 32 | 18 | 24 | 1 | | | | | | |
| 90° East | 174 | 17 | -2 | 43 | -7 | 29 | -9 | | | | | | |
| 90° South | 230 | 16 | 0 | 38 | -17 | 25 | -10 | | | | | | |
| 90° West | 173 | 17 | 1 | 43 | -6 | 28 | -7 | | | | | | |
| 45° South | 396 | 14 | -1 | 36 | -22 | 22 | -11 | | | | | | |
| Composite error | | 15 | 2 | 39 | 17 | 25 | 9 | | | | | | |
| | | ILLUMINANCE MODEL ERROR (100 * LUX) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Surface Orientation | Mean Global Illumin. (100*lux) | PEREZ 1 | | PEREZ 2 | | PEREZ 3 | | PEREZ 4 | | ISOTROPIC | | HAY | |
| | | RMSE | MBE | RMSE | MBE | RMSE | MBE | RMSE | MBE | RMSE | MBE | RMSE | MBE |
| 90° North | 71 | 12 | 2 | 12 | 2 | 14 | 6 | 11 | 2 | 38 | 22 | 30 | 3 |
| 90° East | 160 | 17 | -1 | 19 | 0 | 19 | 2 | 18 | -1 | 51 | 0 | 33 | -5 |
| 90° South | 269 | 16 | -1 | 18 | -2 | 19 | -1 | 19 | -2 | 61 | -30 | 34 | -12 |
| 90° West | 173 | 17 | 3 | 20 | 4 | 20 | 6 | 18 | -3 | 50 | -5 | 32 | -2 |
| Composite error | | 16 | 2 | 18 | 2 | 18 | 4 | 17 | 5 | 50 | 19 | 33 | 7 |
| PEREZ 1: Illuminance coef. PEREZ 2: Dependent Irradiance Coef. | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| PEREZ 3: Independent Irradiance Coef. | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ISOTROPIC, HAY, PEREZ 1, 2 and 3: Diffuse Illuminance Input | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| PEREZ 4: Operational Model -- Illum. coef. plus diffuse irradiance input -- | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

set in Table 6; (ii) a set of irradiance coefficients derived from the same data; and (iii) the independent irradiance set recommended in Table 6. The fourth version is the operational version of the model which combines eqn (7) to derive horizontal diffuse illuminance and the illuminance coefficients.

Results show that performance degradation from an illuminance coefficient set to an irradiance set derived from the same data exceeds that from the latter to an independently derived irradiance set. This observation tends to justify the recommendation for a

distinct set of coefficients for the illuminance model. Results also show that the operational version of the model, which uses only the irradiance data as input, does not yield significant performance deterioration. In summary, the prediction of diffuse illuminance on a tilt is as accurate overall as that of diffuse irradiance.

3.3 Sky luminance modeling

3.3.1 *Zenith luminance prediction model.* Zenith luminance is treated distinctly because (i) it is a design quantity of interest by itself, and because (ii) this is

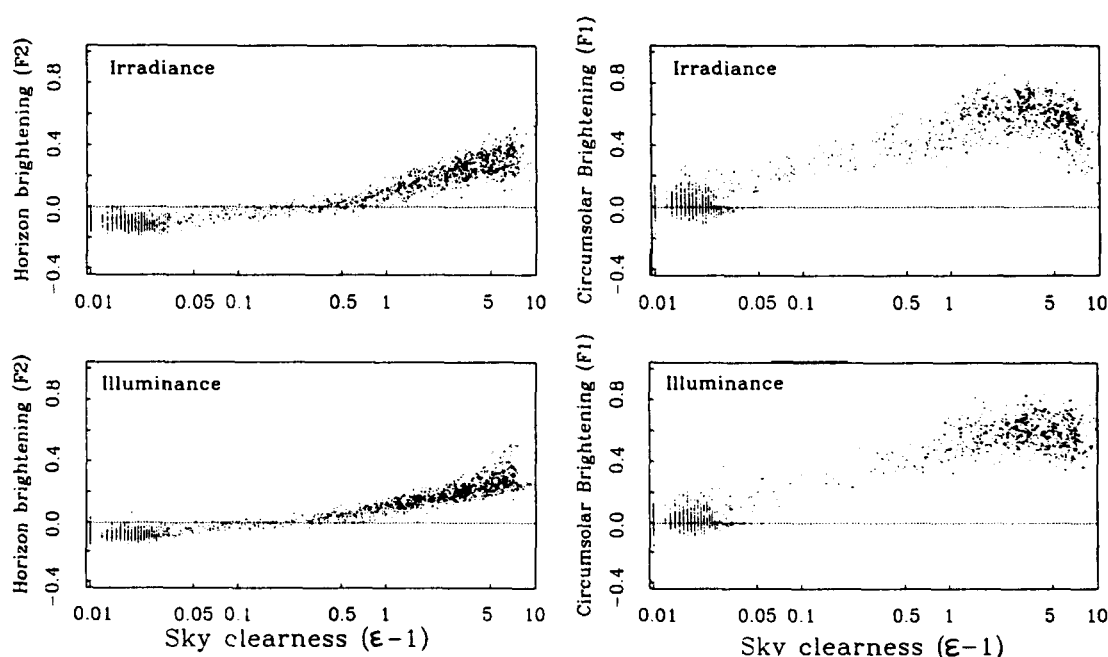


Fig. 14. Compared variations of circumsolar and horizon brightening coefficients with ϵ for irradiance and illuminance ($45^\circ < Z < 55^\circ$). Data from five New York sites.

the main input quantity of CIE standard angular luminance distribution models[5–7].

Key observations. A “pseudo luminous efficacy,” L_{eff} , is defined as the ratio of zenith luminance to diffuse irradiance. Observed variations of L_{eff} with selected sky conditions parameters are presented in Fig. 15. This includes (i) variations with ϵ at $Z \approx \text{cst}$, (ii) variations with Δ for overcast conditions at $Z \approx \text{cst}$, (iii) variations with Z for average overcast conditions ($0.1 < \Delta < 0.3$), and (iv) variations with Z for clear sky conditions. Plots are based on all data available from the five New York sites.

Variations are well defined and are in general agreement with radiative transfer expectations. As noted before, the continuous pattern across all insolation conditions is remarkable. The strong decrease with increasing sky brightness for overcast conditions is most interesting: It indicates that standard CIE overcast description[5] with its bright zenithal region is valid only for dark overcast skies.

Model formulation. Zenith luminance, L_v , is obtained from diffuse irradiance, Dh , and the sky condition parameters through eqn (10).

$$L_v = Dh[a_i + c_i \cos Z + c'_i \exp(-3Z) + d_i \Delta] \quad (10)$$

The coefficients of eqn (10), which were derived by least-square fitting of 22,000 points may be found in Table 4. Given the zenith angle validation domain

($17^\circ < Z < 85^\circ$) care should be used outside those bounds. Notably, the authors recommend use of $Z' = \max(Z, 0.6)$ instead of Z for the lowest ϵ bin in eqn (10) and to view results for $Z < 17^\circ$ with caution until further validation.

Model validation. Mean bias and RMS prediction errors are reported in Table 5, in percentage of mean value terms. Differences between sites studied are negligible as can be seen from the overall bias errors which are kept below 1% (this is also found to be season independent[20]). Relative RMS errors are larger than that obtained for the other type of models described above; this is to be expected because of the high variability that may occur in a confined region of the sky dome for all but extremely clear and dark overcast conditions. In absolute terms, RMS errors range from 0.7 kcd/m^2 for clear conditions to 1.5 kcd/m^2 for bright intermediate skies. Comparison for clear sky conditions against existing models proposed by Dogniaux[38] and Karayel *et al.*[39] indicates 2 : 1 performance gain[18]—note that these models, operational for clear sky conditions only are turbidity dependent, hence, require the same input information as the present model.

3.3.2 Sky luminance angular distribution model.

Sky luminance distribution is the “ultimate” daylight availability quantity for daylighting calculations. Modern design software[1] is now able to effectively use sky maps and beam illuminance to precisely model

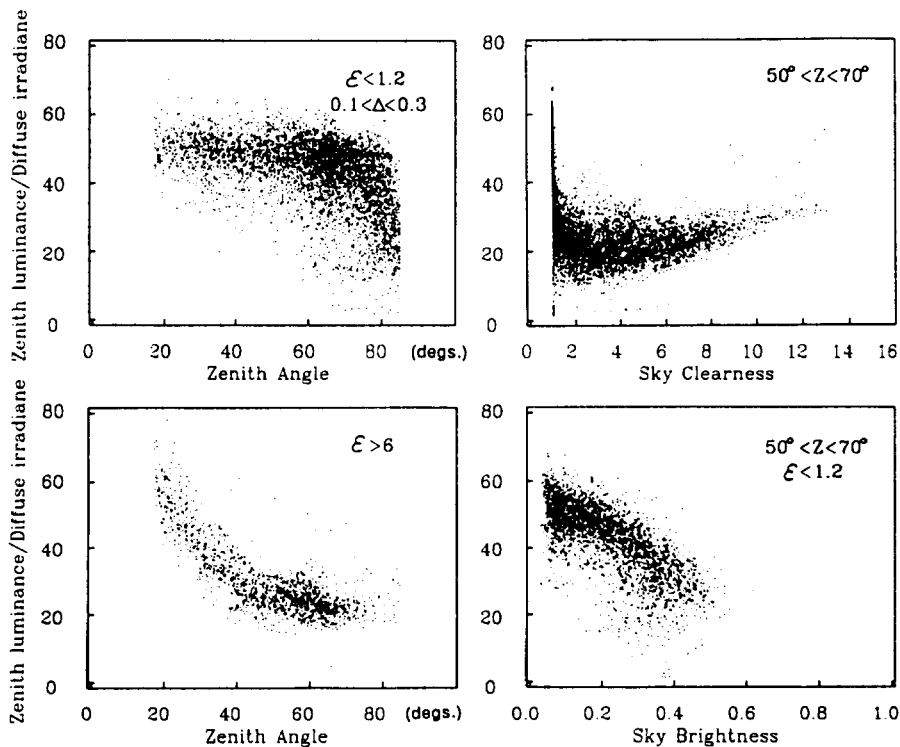


Fig. 15. Variations of zenith luminance-to-diffuse irradiance ratio with (a) Solar zenith angle for overcast conditions. (b) Sky clearness, ϵ , for a limited zenith angle range. (c) Solar zenith angle for very clear conditions. (d) Sky Brightness, Δ , for overcast conditions. (Data from five New York sites).

light distribution in complex interior spaces with complex apertures and outdoor obstructions. Because of the limited coverage of sky luminance distribution available for this study (five points in the sky dome) and the possibility for resulting model distortion, new model development was not undertaken at this time. Rather, the study focused on evaluating and developing operational versions of existing standard models. More complete model development and validation of other nonstandard approaches [e.g., 15,40] will occur in the foreseeable future using the large worldwide sky luminance distribution data base the CIE's International Daylighting Measurement Year[41] is expected to produce.

Model formulation. A combination of CIE skies is proposed as an interim operational model. These are (i) the standard CIE overcast sky[5], (ii) the standard CIE clear sky[6], (iii) a high turbidity formulation of the latter[7], and (iv) a realistic formulation for intermediate skies proposed by a CIE working committee[7].

The model is formulated as follows:

$$L_{vc} = L_{vz} * \psi \quad (11)$$

where ψ is a geometrical factor depending on the solar position, and the considered luminance direction. It is obtained by interpolation of four CIE formulations [eqs (12), (13), (14), and (15)] given below.

Clear sky formulation

$$\psi_{cs} = \Phi(\gamma)f(\zeta)/[\Phi(\pi/2)f(Z)] \quad (12)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(X) &= 1 - \exp(-0.32/\sin X) \\ f(X) &= 0.91 + 10 \exp(-3X) + 0.45(\cos X)^2 \\ \gamma: &\text{considered point elevation in radians} \\ \zeta: &\text{direct beam vs. considered direction angle in radians} \\ Z: &\text{solar zenith angle in radians} \end{aligned}$$

Clear turbid (polluted) sky

$$\psi_{ts} = \Phi(\gamma)f'(\zeta)/[\Phi(\pi/2)f'(Z)] \quad (13)$$

where $f'(X) = 0.856 + 16 \exp(-3X) + 0.3(\cos X)^2$

Intermediate sky

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_{is} &= a(\gamma_s, \gamma) \exp[\zeta b(\gamma_s, \gamma)] / \\ &\quad \{a(\gamma_s, \pi/2) \exp[Zb(\gamma_s, \pi/2)]\} \quad (14) \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\gamma_s = \pi/2 - Z,$$

$$\begin{aligned} a(X, Y) &= [1.35 \{ \sin(3.59Y - 0.009) + 2.31 \} \\ &\quad \times \sin(2.6X + 0.316) + Y + 4.799] / 2.326, \end{aligned}$$

$$b(X, Y)$$

$$= -0.563[(Y + 1.059)(X - 0.008) + 0.812].$$

Overcast sky

$$\psi_{os} = (1 + 2 \sin \gamma) / 3 \quad (15)$$

The linear interpolation of the four terms is a function of the sky condition components Δ and ϵ . Limits are determined by correspondence between each CIE standard's distribution profiles and experimentally derived coefficients of the Perez diffuse illuminance model (Section 3.2.2). For instance, the intermediate CIE sky, which features a strong circumsolar effect, but no horizon brightening, is set at $\epsilon = 1.2$ and $\Delta = 0.5$ —this corresponds to a large value of F_1 at $F_2 = 0$ in the illuminance model (see Fig. 14).

Specifically ψ is obtained from

If $\epsilon \leq 1.2$ then

$$\psi = (1 - a)\psi_{os} + a\psi_{is}, \quad (16)$$

where

$$a = \min\{1, \max[0, (\epsilon - 1)/0.2, (\Delta - 0.05)/0.4]\},$$

If $1.2 < \epsilon \leq 3$ then

$$\psi = (1 - b)\psi_{is} + b\psi_{ts},$$

where

$$b = (\epsilon - 1.2)/1.8,$$

If $\epsilon > 3$ then

$$\psi = (1 - c)\psi_{ts} + c\psi_{cs},$$

where

$$c = \min[1, (\epsilon - 3)/3].$$

Model evaluation. Two versions are evaluated here, one that uses measured L_{vz} as input in eqn (11) and an "operational version" that combines eqns (11) and (10) and uses only an irradiance input. Performance is compared to that of two simpler models: (i) an isotropic sky model that assumes constant luminance throughout the sky dome; and (ii) an anisotropic equivalent sky luminance model; the latter assumes that luminance at any given point in the sky dome is equal to the mean luminance viewed by a tilted plane facing that point—mean luminance is obtained by dividing the diffuse illuminance value from eqn (9) by the sky Lambertian solid angle viewed by the plane.

Validation data consist of measured luminance values at 45° elevation in four azimuths. Note that in this case, validation is totally independent since there is no relationship between test experimental data and model derivation. Observed relative (%) differences between modeled and all available measured values in Albany are plotted as a function of sky clearness in

Fig. 16. It is apparent that the CIE combination models do a better job than the two simpler models to predict luminance at 45° elevation in the sky vault. The tendency of the equivalent luminance anisotropic sky model to overestimate for clear conditions is simply caused by the fact that this incorporates horizon brightening (seen by the tilted plane) whereas the test positions are above the luminance enhancement region. Use of modeled rather than measured input for the CIE formulation does not result in apparent performance deterioration.

Quantitative validation summaries (RMSEs and MBEs) are given in Table 9 for each site, model and luminance direction. It is noteworthy to remark that the model that uses modeled zenith luminance from irradiance is slightly more accurate than the one that relies on measured zenith luminance. This is understandable because the diffuse irradiance input contains information from the entire sky whereas zenith luminance is a point measurement. Overall, use of this model results in a 1.6 : 1 performance improvement over the uniform sky and a 1.25 : 1 improvement over the anisotropic equivalent luminance sky for the region of the dome presently under investigation.

Recommendation. Closer scrutiny of results indicates that it is likely that luminance distribution model

performance may be improved in the future. Table 10 reports model MBEs and RMSEs for Farmingdale, sorted by sky condition, solar zenith angle and luminance direction for the selected model. The distinct bias pattern would indicate that a better fit to the data is possible. This task cannot be undertaken with the present luminance data since a fit to that data (only five directions in the sky vault) could result large distortions for other positions in the sky.

For the present, the level of precision achieved in this independent test would warrant recommendation of the proposed CIE interpolation method for applications as an "all-weather" operational skylight distribution model. Note that, in practice, when a map of the sky is generated the resultant overall bias can be totally eliminated by simple normalization as shown in eqn (17).

$$L'_{vc} = L_{vc} \left[dh / \left(\int_{\text{all-sky}} L_{vc} \sin \gamma d\Omega \right) \right] \quad (17)$$

The normalized luminance, L'_{vc} , at any given point is equal to the luminance obtained from eqn (11) multiplied by the ratio between diffuse illuminance, dh , calculated from eqn (7), and the same quantity ob-

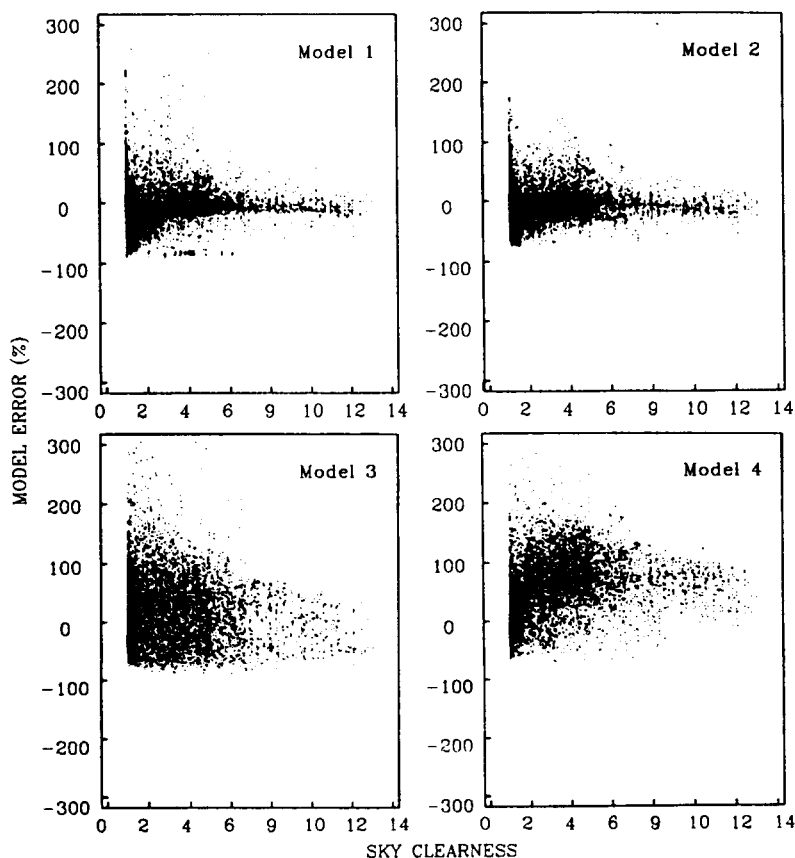


Fig. 16. Relative difference between measured and modeled luminance at four points in the sky dome (Model 1: eqn (11) + measured zenith luminance input; Model 2: eqn (11) + horizontal diffuse irradiance input; Model 3: Isotropic Sky; Model 4: Anisotropic sky equivalent luminance). Data from five New York sites.

Table 9. Validation performance summary for luminance distribution models

| SITE | LUMINANCE DIRECTION | NO. OF EVENTS | MEAN (cd/m ²) | MODEL ERROR (cd/m ²) | | | | | | | |
|---|------------------------|------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|------|---------|------|---------|-------|---------|------|
| | | | | MODEL 1 | | MODEL 2 | | MODEL 3 | | MODEL 4 | |
| | | | | RMSE | MBE | RMSE | MBE | RMSE | MBE | RMSE | MBE |
| Albany | N. 45° | 5628 | 3666 | 992 | -157 | 1008 | -226 | 1683 | 642 | 1650 | 832 |
| Albany | E. 45° | 5368 | 4697 | 1587 | -481 | 1581 | -558 | 2466 | -400 | 1934 | 497 |
| Albany | S. 45° | 5182 | 6462 | 3066 | -785 | 2831 | -870 | 4278 | -2282 | 2958 | -86 |
| Albany | W. 45° | 3610 | 3957 | 1231 | -368 | 1200 | -427 | 1532 | -311 | 1796 | 822 |
| Farmin. | N. 45° | 5956 | 4086 | 1098 | -225 | 1126 | -274 | 1885 | 536 | 1801 | 759 |
| Farmin. | N. 45° | 5786 | 5067 | 1929 | -290 | 1904 | -274 | 3076 | -472 | 2331 | 651 |
| Farmin. | S. 45° | 5490 | 6662 | 2645 | -616 | 2452 | -628 | 4249 | -2169 | 2864 | 100 |
| G. Fls. | N. 45° | 1259 | 2154 | 889 | -459 | 946 | -449 | 1311 | 733 | 1160 | 768 |
| G. Fls. | E. 45° | 1204 | 2542 | 892 | -116 | 891 | -104 | 1319 | 279 | 2068 | 1637 |
| Oswego | N. 45° | 1710 | 3211 | 832 | -358 | 859 | -354 | 1290 | 458 | 1016 | 342 |
| Oswego | E. 45° | 1724 | 4025 | 1431 | -562 | 1451 | -554 | 1778 | -360 | 1581 | 504 |
| Oswego | S. 45° | 1591 | 5578 | 2802 | -835 | 2559 | -842 | 3735 | -2032 | 2462 | -18 |
| Queens | N. 45° | 6949 | 3871 | 1143 | -51 | 1080 | -13 | 1865 | 856 | 1944 | 1210 |
| Queens | E. 45° | 6520 | 5359 | 2109 | -466 | 1999 | -385 | 3438 | -697 | 2419 | 655 |
| Queens | S. 45° | 6480 | 6934 | 2825 | -862 | 2645 | -791 | 4555 | -2346 | 2691 | 89 |
| ALL | COMPOSITE | 67883 | ---- | 1866 | 442 | 1772 | 486 | 2816 | 972 | 2144 | 598 |
| Model 1: Equation 11 with measured zenith luminance input | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Model 2: Equation 11 with diffuse irradiance input (through equation 7) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Model 3: Isotropic sky | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Model 4: Equivalent luminance, anisotropic sky | | | | | | | | | | | |

tained by integration of the luminance points calculated from eqn (11).

4. CONCLUSIONS

This paper has presented a set of models designed to generate a comprehensive array of energy/daylight

quantities relevant to the design and optimization of solar energy systems and building structures and components. All models share a common operating methodology in the sense that (i) they are designed to span all conditions from overcast to clear, and (ii) they rely on the same input data and insolation conditions pa-

Table 10. Luminance model RMS and mean bias error as a function of orientation and insolation conditions in Farmingdale

| SOLAR ZENITH ANGLE RANGE | INSOLATION CONDITIONS | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | Overcast | | | Intermediate | | | Clear | | |
| | MBE | RMSE | mean | MBE | RMSE | mean | MBE | RMSE | mean |
| | cd/m ² | cd/m ² | cd/m ² | cd/m ² | cd/m ² | cd/m ² | cd/m ² | cd/m ² | cd/m ² |
| NORTH 45° ORIENTATION | | | | | | | | | |
| 0°-35° | -545 | 1823 | 9327 | 995 | 3170 | 8575 | -102 | 940 | 3548 |
| 35°-50° | -148 | 1352 | 7578 | -150 | 1854 | 6577 | -160 | 927 | 2599 |
| 50°-65° | -365 | 968 | 5090 | -437 | 1390 | 4429 | -292 | 598 | 2154 |
| 65°-75° | -389 | 789 | 3410 | -455 | 895 | 3085 | -219 | 381 | 1780 |
| 75°-85° | -316 | 514 | 1830 | -432 | 572 | 1774 | -272 | 338 | 1241 |
| 0°-85° | -344 | 1108 | 5195 | -178 | 1703 | 4729 | -230 | 644 | 2161 |
| EAST 45° ORIENTATION | | | | | | | | | |
| 0°-35° | -532 | 2262 | 9988 | 722 | 3024 | 12344 | 210 | 1970 | 5480 |
| 35°-50° | 102 | 1869 | 8137 | -245 | 3023 | 9041 | -7 | 1382 | 4011 |
| 50°-65° | -384 | 1784 | 5462 | -995 | 3245 | 6524 | 46 | 1215 | 3325 |
| 65°-75° | -805 | 2007 | 4075 | -1506 | 2854 | 4951 | 218 | 906 | 2704 |
| 75°-85° | -539 | 1027 | 2105 | -804 | 1331 | 2357 | -13 | 497 | 1808 |
| 0°-85° | -446 | 1832 | 5634 | -677 | 2850 | 6838 | 86 | 1215 | 5046 |
| SOUTH 45° ORIENTATION | | | | | | | | | |
| 0°-35° | -1499 | 3134 | 11414 | -1843 | 4199 | 21224 | 289 | 2418 | 10279 |
| 35°-50° | -981 | 2731 | 9853 | -1892 | 4708 | 15329 | 542 | 1786 | 6272 |
| 50°-65° | -980 | 2497 | 6624 | -2891 | 5267 | 10952 | 519 | 1514 | 5684 |
| 65°-75° | -733 | 1597 | 4114 | -1119 | 2344 | 5238 | 297 | 827 | 3383 |
| 75°-85° | -243 | 515 | 1790 | -411 | 633 | 1993 | -68 | 233 | 1487 |
| 0°-85° | -859 | 2230 | 6334 | -1752 | 3957 | 10359 | 339 | 1441 | 5046 |

rameterization—input is compatible with currently available data and with that likely to be provided by a new generation of low cost/low maintenance instruments.

The models have been extensively validated using data representative from various climatic environments. These range from maritime to high altitude deserts for the irradiance models and from temperate maritime to continental for the daylight availability models. For each model, a noticeable performance improvement is found over existing methods that accomplish the same task.

The experimental/statistical approach used to derive the models can be considered both as an asset and a liability. On the asset side, the experimental approach allows for simply delineating particular configurations, which are far from straightforward in terms of radiation transfer calculations: The delineation of intermediate cases between very clear and totally overcast extremes is an example (e.g., the combined effect of surface dew point and atmospheric clearness effects on direct beam luminous efficacy); the observation of well-characterized continuity between thin/scattered clouds and high turbidity events is another. On the liability side, questions may be raised because (i) model validity should be limited to the domain covered by experimental data, and (ii) the models may carry possible instrumentation limitations (e.g., calibration). Concerning the first point, the validation domain covers a wide climatic/seasonal range, even for the daylight availability models. Further validation/development is, of course, recommended, particularly for drastically different environments—the proposed CIE's International Daylighting Year[41] should provide an excellent basis to address these questions. Concerning the second reservation, the authors believe that, given the care and scrutiny used for instrumentation characterization and cross-calibration, resulting imprecision should be small (this should be of most concern for luminous efficacy models, which are crucially dependent on instrument absolute calibration; in this case it is believed that overall instrumentation-induced model bias should not exceed 3%).

Beyond this first comprehensive set of operational models, further model development yielding enhanced accuracy and/or extended validation is needed and likely to occur in the future as more data becomes available, particularly with respect to skylight angular distribution. Based on their experience, the authors recommend the highest possible care in data and instrumentation quality monitoring if future data are to fulfil this expectation.

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NOMENCLATURE

- Z solar zenith angle (rads., unless otherwise specified)
 S Tilted plane slope angle (rads.)
 θ Solar incidence angle on tilted plane (rads.)
 γ Elevation angle for luminance direction in the sky dome (rads.)
 γ_s Solar elevation angle (rads.)
 ζ Angle between direct beam and considered luminance direction (rads.)
 m Relative optical air mass
 W Atmospheric precipitable water (cm)
 T_d Surface dew point temperature ($^{\circ}\text{C}$)
 G Global horizontal irradiance (W/m^2)
 g Global horizontal illuminance (Lux)
 I Normal incidence direct irradiance (W/m^2)
 I_o Extraterrestrial normal incidence irradiance (W/m^2)
 i Normal incidence direct illuminance (Lux)
 Dh Horizontal diffuse irradiance (W/m^2)
 dh Horizontal diffuse illuminance (Lux)
 Dc Diffuse irradiance on a tilted plane (W/m^2)
 dc Diffuse illuminance on a tilted plane (Lux)
 Xc Generic term for both diffuse irradiance and illuminance on a tilted plane
 Xh Generic term for both horizontal diffuse irradiance and illuminance
 L_{vz} Luminance at the sky's zenith (Cd/m^2)
 L_{vc} Luminance at a given position in the sky (Cd/m^2)
 L'_{vc} Normalized luminance at a given position in the sky (Cd/m^2)
 G_{eff} Global luminous efficacy (lm/W)
 D_{eff} Diffuse luminous efficacy (lm/W)
 I_{eff} Direct luminous efficacy (lm/W)
 L_{eff} Zenith luminance "Pseudo-efficacy" L_{vz}/Dh (Cd/W)
 ϵ Atmospheric clearness parameter (dimensionless)
 Δ Atmospheric brightness parameter (dimensionless)
 F_1 Circumsolar brightening coefficient (dimensionless)
 F_2 Horizon brightening coefficient (dimensionless)
 ψ Ratio between sky luminance at a given point in the sky and zenith luminance
 ψ_{os} Same as above—CIE overcast sky formulation
 ψ_{is} Same as above—CIE intermediate sky formulation
 ψ_{cs} Same as above—CIE clear sky formulation
 ψ_{ts} Same as above—CIE clear-turbid sky formulation